

Celebrating Our 60th Season!



# Ivoryton Playhouse

1989 SEASON

### 5 GREAT SHOWS = 11 WEEKS OF ENTERTAINMENT!

Delicious summer fare!

# THE DINING ROOM

by A.R. Gurney, Jr.

Vignettes on the wit, wisdom and vagaries of the American WASP

JUNE 20 - JULY 1

Smash hit comedy!

### BAREFOOT IN THE PARK

by Neil Simon

A couple of charming newlyweds skyrocket into Manhattan madness

JULY 4 - JULY 15

The belly laugh is back!

## A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

Great music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim Book by Larry Gelbart and Burt Shevelove

Riotous musical farce, Roman style! 3-week run

JULY 18 - AUGUST 5

Stirring backstage drama!

### THE DRESSER

by Ronald Harwood

Tragi-comedy played against a backdrop of the British blitz

**AUGUST 8 - AUGUST 19** 

The famous thriller!

### NIGHT MUST FALL

by Emlyn Williams

Chilling mystery classic keeps the audience a-tingle

AUGUST 22 - SEPT. 3





\_\_\_\_ at the\_\_\_ Ivoryton Playhouse

# THEATRE FOR CHILDREN

### All Performances At 11:00 a.m.

\*EXCEPT AS NOTED BELOW\*

#### SUMMER OF 1989

FRIDAY, June 30 - "LITTLE THIEF OF BAGDAD" (Performed by The Bennington Puppets)

SATURDAY, July 8 - "PETER AND THE WOLF" (Performed by The Penny Bridge Players)

SATURDAY, July 15 - "PUSS IN BOOTS" (Performed by The Penny Bridge Players)

FRIDAY, July 21 - "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD" (Performed by The Fanfare Theatre Ensemble)

SATURDAY, July 29 - "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" (Performed by Kit & Kaboodle)

SATURDAY, August 5 - "PETER IN NEVERLAND" (Performed by Once Upon A Time)

SATURDAY, August 12 - "AESOP'S FABLES & OTHER STORIES" (Performed by The Thimble Island Theatre)

MONDAY, August 14 - "PINOCCHIO"
\*Special Performance at 7:00 P.M.\*
AND

FRIDAY, August 18 - "PINOCCHIO" (Performed by River Rep's own Youth Theatre)

SATURDAY, August 26 - "YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN"
(Performed by Carousel Children's Theatre)
\*Special Added Performance at 1:00 PM\*



BOX OFFICE OPEN NOW



#### A THEATRE BUILT BY CONNECTICUT INDUSTRY

In 1908, Comstock Cheney & Co., a company involved in the manufacture of ivory products, built a theatre for members of their factory workforce. Touring companies of vaudeville acts entertained the community regularly and the theatre played host to enthusiastic audiences and eager troupes.

In 1915, the silver screen found its way to the bucolic knoll of Ivoryton, and the recently built theatre captivated audiences with a new kind of entertainment that would revolutionize the business of performing arts.

The theatre flourished. Via this new medium, great stars like Rudolf Valentino, Charlie Chaplin, Lillian Gish found their way to the remote Ivoryton theatre. Milton Steifel, a Broadway stage director, launched the "Ivoryton Experiment." With an opening production of a light comedy, Mr. Steifel founded the first summer stock theatre in Connecticut and the second in the United States.

#### THE IVORYTON TOMORROW: A THEATRE FOR ALL SEASONS

It was during the second season that a young actress was introduced to Connecticut audiences. Her performances were met with warm enthusiasm, and she became the leading lady. Some of the plays she appeared in were "The Little Accident", "Let Us Be Gay" and "The Man Came Back" with Henry Hull.

This young actress was none other than Katharine Hepburn and the Ivoryton Theatre's early success and reputation will always bear a debt of gratitude to this talented legend.

In 1979, the Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation Inc. was established and this non-profit organization acquired the physical plant which is the Ivoryton Theatre.

The trustees reached the determination that the future of this historic theatrical landmark cannot be served by anything less than a serious fundraising effort to make it more than a summer auditorium for transient theatrical enterprises.

For concerts, dance performances, serious theatre and performing arts of all kinds, on both a national level and a local level, the community desperately needs a proper facility.

The Ivoryton Playhouse presents a rare opportunity to give to us and our children a place for performing arts: a place with roots that lend perspective to the stars of tomorrow.

Steifel succeeded. And with your help and generosity, so will we.

# THE RIVER REP at the IVORYTON PLAYHOUSE presents

# THE DINING ROOM

by

A.R. GURNEY, JR.

with

Martha Farrar Warren Kelley Evan Thompson

Jenn Thompson Owen Thompson Jen Wolfe

Directed by

JANE STANTON

Setting by **Bob Phillips** 

Lighting by Craig Kennedy

Production Stage Manager
Court Sweeting

# Welcome to the **3rd Season** of **THE RIVER REP**

at Ivoryton

# Celebrate the **60th SEASON** of the **IVORYTON PLAYHOUSE**

### THE RIVER REP

is a professional company dedicated to bringing you the best in theatre

### **Producing Partners:**

Warren Kelley Jane Stanton Joan Shepard Evan Thompson James A. Wilson

# DON'T MISS THE REST OF OUR EXCITING 1989 SEASON . . . .

- \* BAREFOOT IN THE PARK July 4 July 15
  Neil Simon's Most Hilarious Comedy
- \* A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM July 18 — Aug. 5 Sondheim's musical farce, Roman style. 3-week run!
- \* THE DRESSER Aug. 8 Aug. 19
  Tragi-Comedy, Backstage during the Blitz
- \* NIGHT MUST FALL Aug. 22 Sept. 3

  Chilling mystery classic by Emlyn Williams

# THE DINING ROOM

### THE CAST

(in order of speaking)

Martha Farrar\*

Warren Kelley\*

Owen Thompson\*

Jen Wolfe\*

Evan Thompson\*

Jenn Thompson\*

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association

The play takes place in a dining room — or rather, many dining rooms — inhabited by many families over the years.

### Act I

### - INTERMISSION -

### Act II

This play is produced by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.

THE DINING ROOM was first produced Off-Broadway by Playwrights Horizons in 1982.

The use of cameras and/or recording devices is strictly prohibited.

The River Rep is a division of Fanfare Theatre Ensemble, Inc.

### **PRODUCTION STAFF**

Artistic Director Jane Stanton Managing Director Joan Shepard Production Coordinator Linda Carol Young Production Stage Manager Court Sweeting Technical Director Ron A. Gasparinetti Assistant Technical Director Barbara Dondero Master Electrician Adam Zonder Sound Jim Wilson Press Representative Bobbie Gelinas-Wight House Manager Linda Berg Assistant to Mr. Phillips David Banuelos Construction Crew Betsy Costa, Jenny Fisk, Deborah Flanagan, Matt Granger, Jon Jacobson,
Madeline Kibbe, Jenny Ellen Mooz, Brian Nelson,
Lindsay O'Nell, Missy Rostkoski, Heather Sapey,
Barbara Wettmore, David Wertheimer,
Amanda Wind, Adam Zonder
Box Office Treasurers
JoAnn Mahoney, Jenny Ellen Mooz,
Kathleen Sterling
Concessions Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation

### Special Thanks To The Following:

PHILIP B. CHAMBERLAIN CO. for the dining room table and incidental chairs, MARLBOROUGH COUNTRY BARN for the tea cart and dining room chairs, Clavier Music for the donation of the piano. Also thanks to Connecticut College Dept. of Theatre, Colonial Theatre of Westerly, R.I., Pfizer Players, Triangle Theatre Co., ENE Lighting, CVC, Bill & Dee Grover, and Connie Treadwell. Floral bouquet courtesy of Forget-me-not Floral Shop.

The River Rep is deeply indebted to the members of the community who are generously providing housing for the company.